

Please insert the following new claims:

Please insert new claim 11 as follows:

11. (New) A method of removing contaminants from textiles, comprising contacting a textile with an effective amount of a fructan polycarboxylic acid containing on average at least 0.05 carboxyl groups per monosaccharide unit.

12. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein said contacting is carried out during washing, boiling off, bleaching, dying or rewashing of said textile.

13. (New) The textile treated by the method of claim 11.

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14. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said fructan polycarboxylic acid is based on fructans having a chain length of at least 10.

15. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein said fructan polycarboxylic acid is based on fructans having a chain length of at least 10.

16. (New) The textile treated by the method of claim 1.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Please replace claim 1 with the amended version submitted herewith and add new claims 11-16. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the amendment. The attached appendix is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."